Sukitte Iwaseru Houhou by Masami Nagata
Volume 3 Chapter 7

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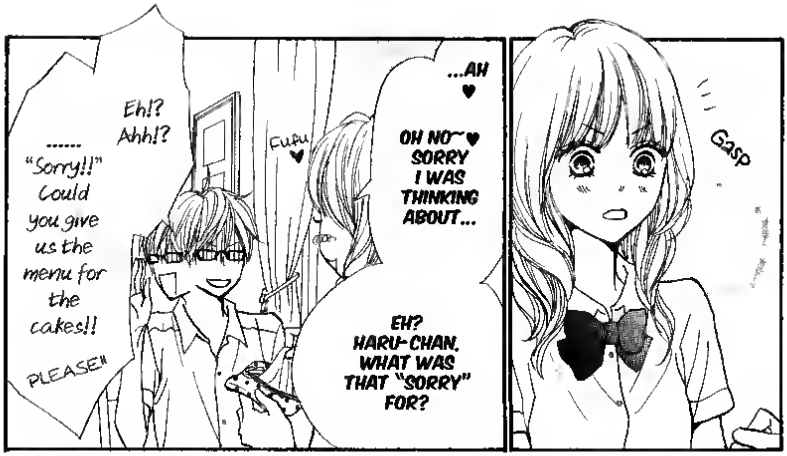
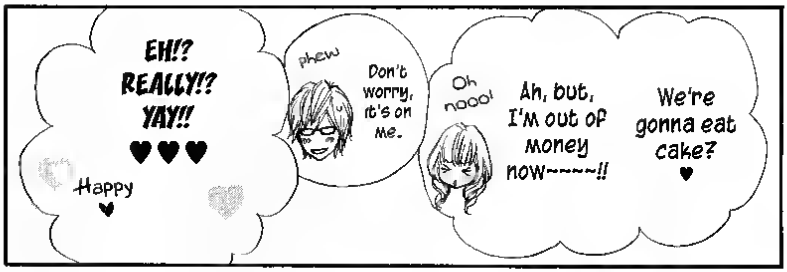
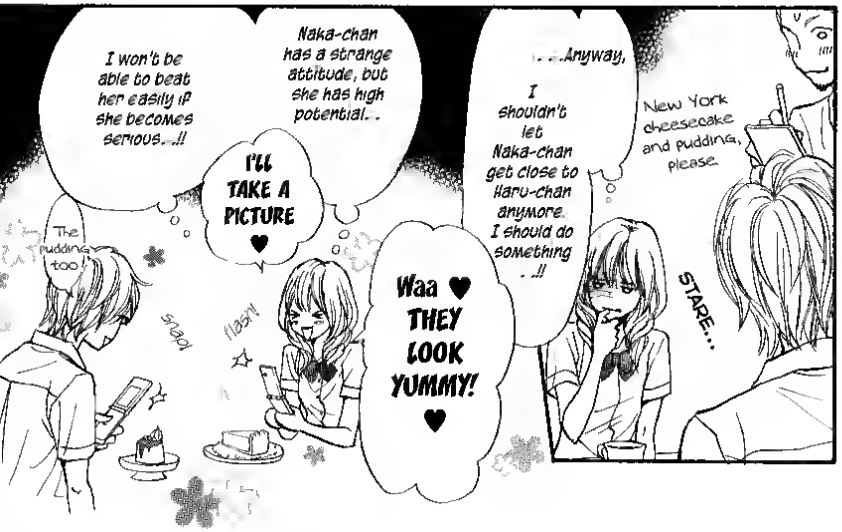
Thank you.
Enjoy.
Sorry to have kept you waiting.
.....
I thought I saw him with another pretty girl yesterday.
Glance

OHH
TT
TT
.....Ah,
I knew Na-chan's cup would have sweet peas on.....
SHOCK
BADUMP
.....
BADUMP
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
W-
WHAT'S WRONG .....?

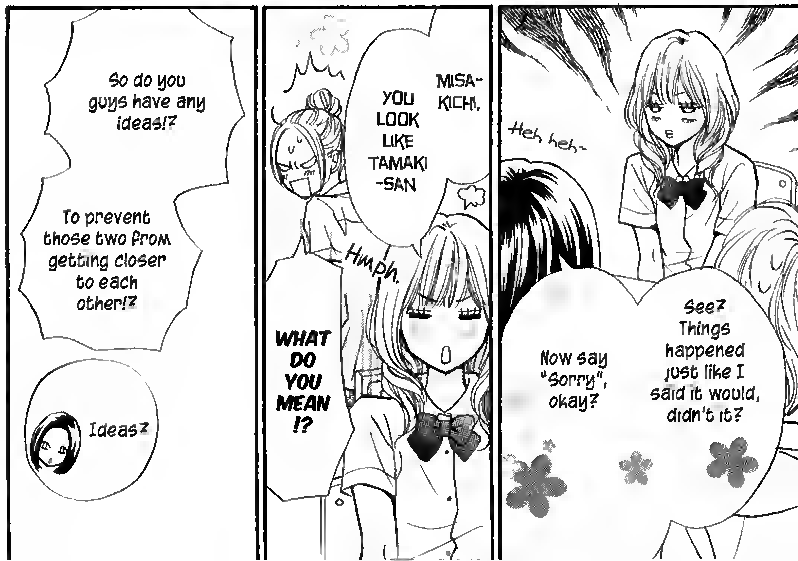
THEY DIDN'T TALK MUCH DURING CLUB ACTIVITIES. HOW DID IT HAPPEN...?
.....A-
NAKA-CHAN SHOULD HATE HARU-CHAN.
trouble
badguy?
Are you okay...?
HOW... WHEN?
"Is it really okay?"
"Even if that person is your boyfriend?"
Of course .....
NOOOOOT!!
SORRY!!
BANG!!

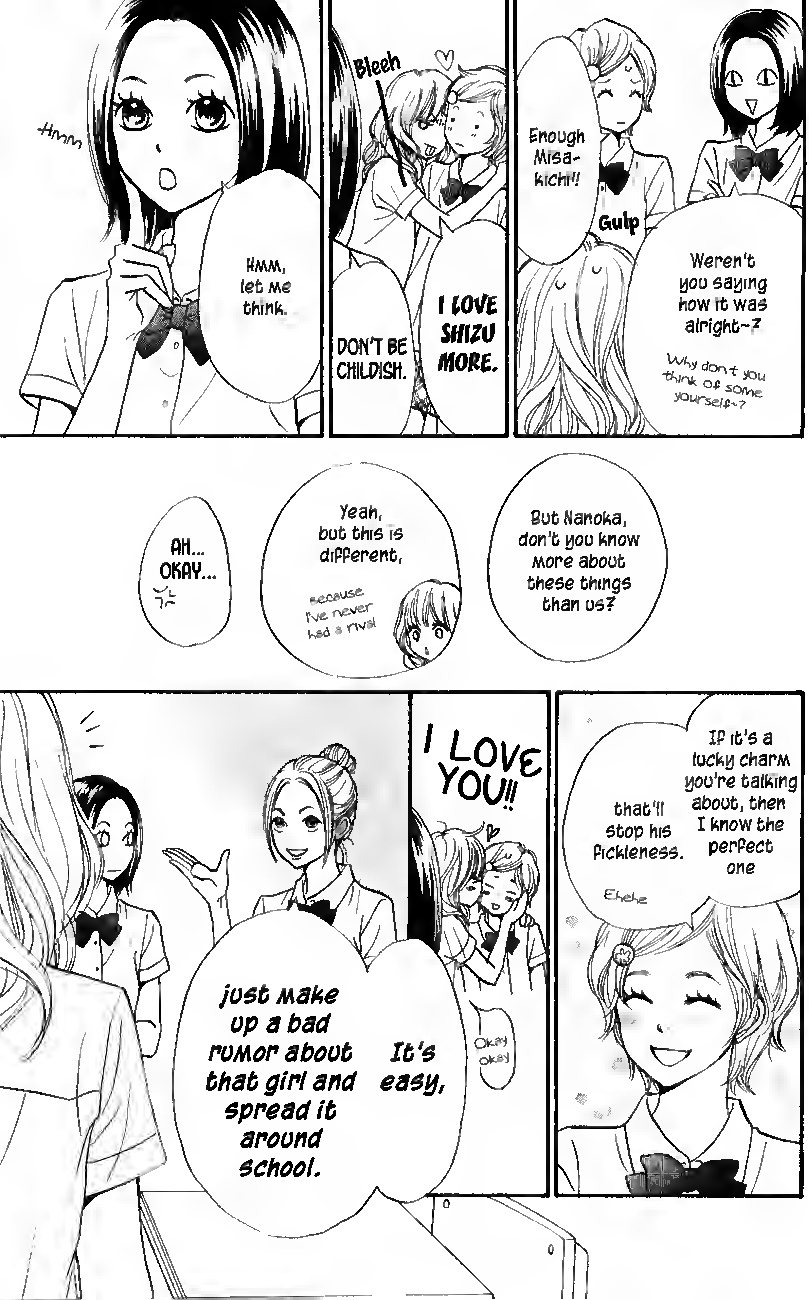

.....
"Sorry!!" Could you give us the menu for the cakes!!
PLEASE!!
Eh!?
Ahh!?
Fuu
...AH ♥
OH NO~♥ SORRY I WAS THINKING ABOUT...
EH? HARU-CHAN, WHAT WAS THAT "SORRY" FOR?
GASP


EH!? REALLY!? YAY!! ♥♥♥
Happy ♥
phew
Don't worry, it's on me.
Oh noooo!
Ah, but, I'm out of money now~~~~!!
We're gonna eat cake? ♥


I won't be able to beat her easily if she becomes serious...!!
Naka-chan has a strange attitude, but she has high potential...
I'LL TAKE A PICTURE ♥
The pudding too!
click
flash
Waa ♥ THEY LOOK YUMMY! ♥
...Anyway, I shouldn't let Naka-chan get close to Haru-chan anymore. I should do something...!!
New York cheesecake and pudding, please.
STARE...

I NEED TO DO SOMETHING!!
I TOLD YOU!!

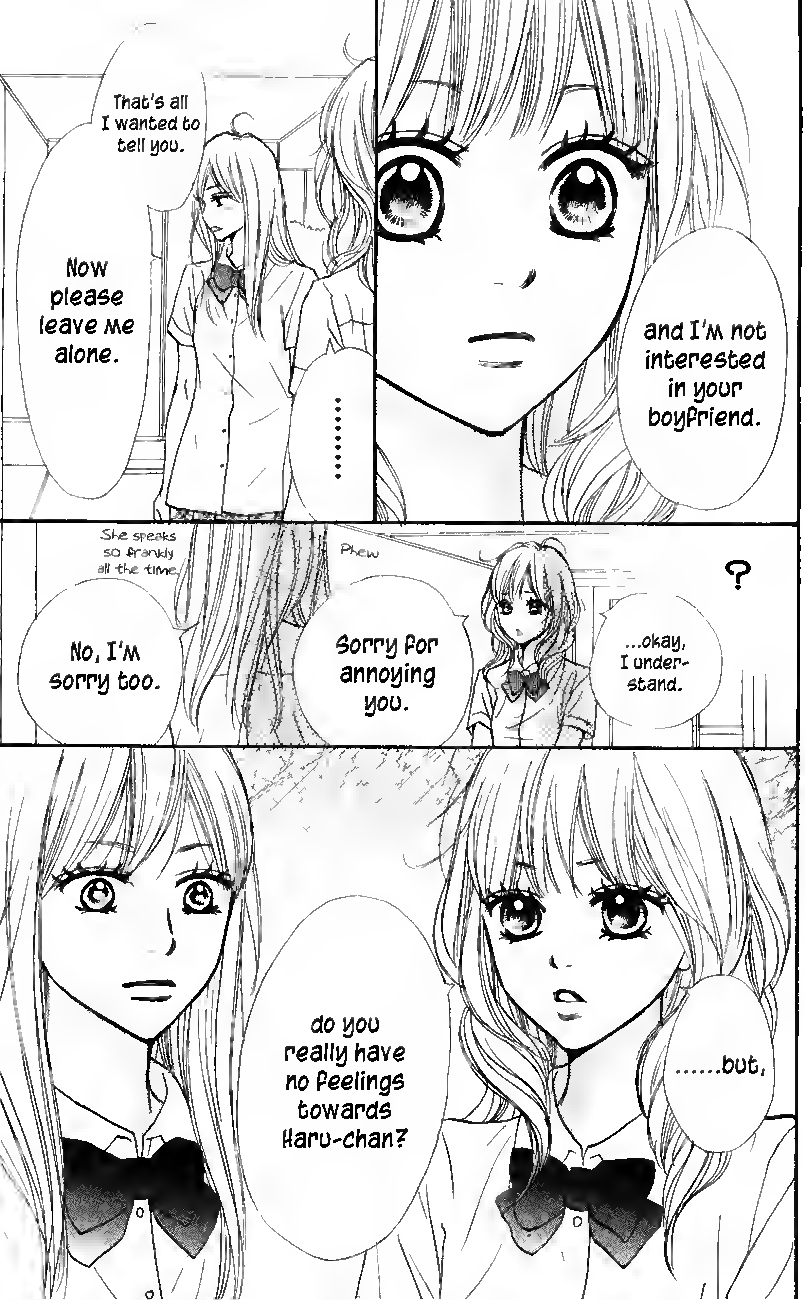

So do you guys have any ideas!?
To prevent those two from getting closer to each other!?
Ideas?
MISA-KICHI, YOU LOOK LIKE TAMAKI-SAN
Humph
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
Heh, heh~
See? Things happened just like I said it would, didn't it?
Now say "Sorry", okay?

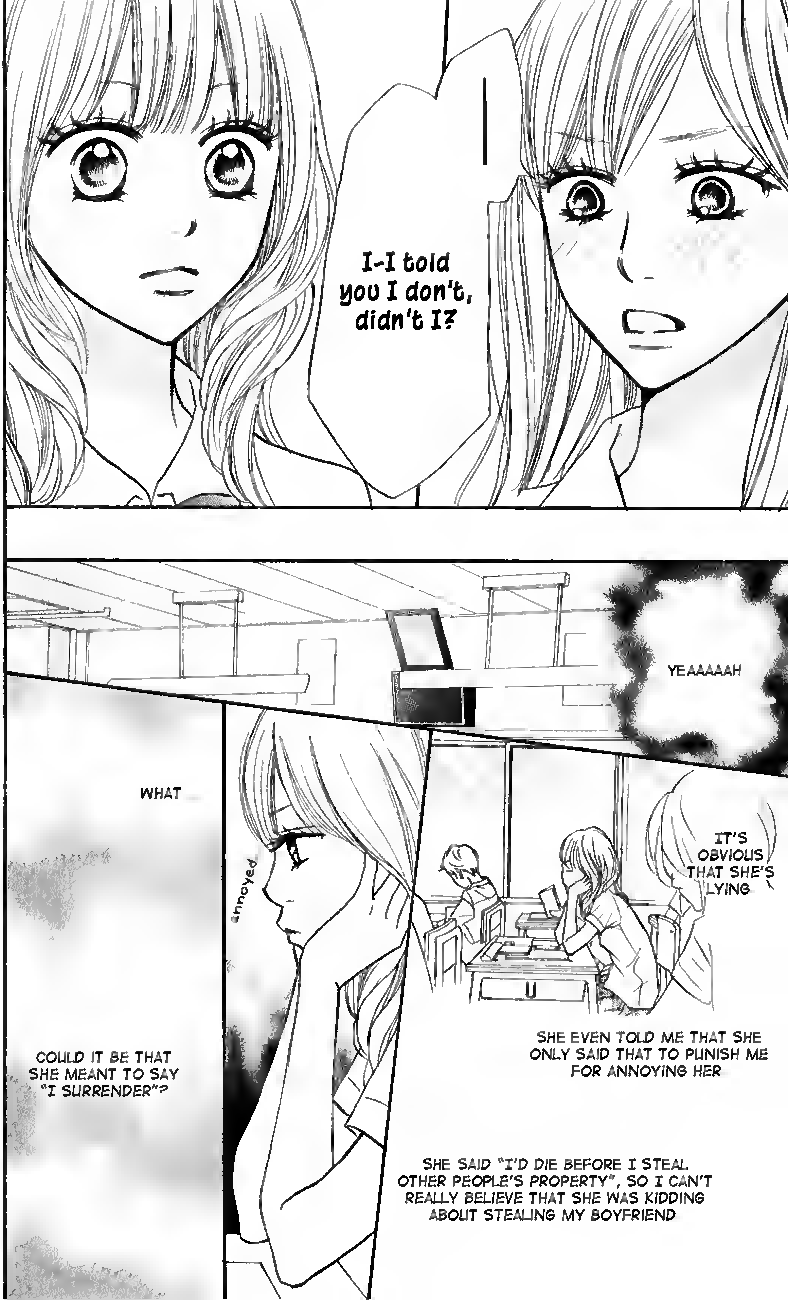

Hmm
Hmm, let me think.
Bleeh
I LOVE SHIZU MORE.
DON'T BE CHILDISH.
Enough Misa-kichi!!
Gulp
Weren't you saying how it was alright~?
Why don't you think of some yourself~?
But Nanoka, don't you know more about these things than us?
Yeah, but this is different,
because I've never had a rival
AH... OKAY...
I LOVE YOU!!
Okay okay
It's easy, just make up a bad rumor about that girl and spread it around school.
If it's a lucky charm you're talking about, then I know the perfect one
Ehehe
that'll stop his fickleness.

They believe rumors easily and will be disappointed in those girls.
Hmph
Boys are stupid.
Boys usually like to defend cute girls in a bad situation.
Really? I don't think so.
Shouldn't you be taking care of yourself and be more pure!?
INDEED.
YEAH, THAT'S NONSENSE.
YOU'LL CONTAMINATE YOUR SOUL BY SPREADING RUMORS!
AND THAT'S NONSENSE!!

I know you're a good girl, so don't pretend to be bad!!
Yeah, you're right.
Wanna do the charm too?
the best way is to be with Haru-chan as much as possible?
I think
Tamaki, you're blushing.
Ahaha cute
GRIN GRIN
I-I AM NOT!!
Nishizaki-saaaaan,
someone's calling for yoooo!

...about yesterday,
Forget what I said.
Eh?
I was just kidding.
You kept meddling... I mean, giving me advice, so...
I just wanted to be mean to you.
I still... hate boys,


That's all I wanted to tell you.
Now please leave me alone.
.....
and I'M not interested in your boyfriend.
She speaks so frankly all the time.
No, I'M sorry too.
Phew
Sorry for annoying you.
?
...okay, I under-stand.
do you really have no feelings towards Haru-chan?
.....but,


I-I told you I don't, didn't I?
YEAAAAAH
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT SHE'S LYING
SHE EVEN TOLD ME THAT SHE ONLY SAID THAT TO PUNISH ME FOR ANNOYING HER
SHE SAID "I'D DIE BEFORE I STEAL OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY", SO I CAN'T REALLY BELIEVE THAT SHE WAS KIDDING ABOUT STEALING MY BOYFRIEND
annoyed
WHAT
COULD IT BE THAT SHE MEANT TO SAY "I SURRENDER"?

I'D TRY MY BEST EVEN IF I ONLY HAD A 1% CHANCE OF WINNING.
THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOSING AFTER TRYING YOUR BEST AND LOSING WITHOUT TRYING YOUR BEST!!
GASP!
NISHI-ZAKI!!

IS IT REALLY OKAY TO THINK THAT WAY ABOUT YOUR FIRST LOVE?

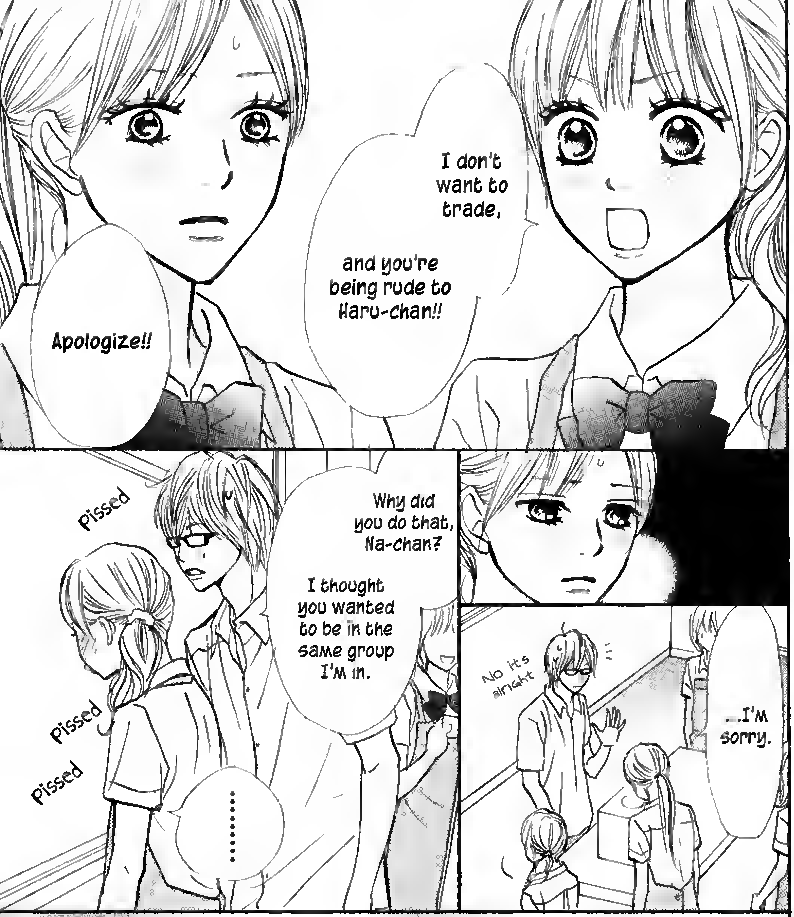
A GIRL WILL ALWAYS BE INFLUENCED BY HER FIRST LOVE.

I CAN'T GIVE UP EVERYTHING WITHOUT A FIGHT EVERY TIME.

rattle
A-Ah! I haven't answered this one yet!
Eh...?
THEN TAMAKI!! YOU ANSWER!
Ah.. But
?
Ques-tion 5!
SORRY, I DON'T KNOW ♡
DON'T GIVE UP THAT EASILY!
TRY YOUR BEST!
COOKING CLUB
IT'D BE BAD FOR ME IF NAKA-CHAN TRIED HER BEST...
I SHOULD BE HAPPY THAT SHE GAVE UP.
O~kaaay
Listen guys, we're going to divide into groups for this week's practice.
Let's draw lots like usual

Please let me get group 2, group 2 ♡ ♡
Group 2!
rustle rustle
Haru-chan, which group are you in?
Come on, let's draw!
Okay
Okay, me first.
3
Aww!
2
GLOOM
Too bad.
...Ah.

I don't want to be in a same group as a boy.
...Wanna trade?
glance
No!!



BECAUSE...

WHY... YOU DID SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DO.

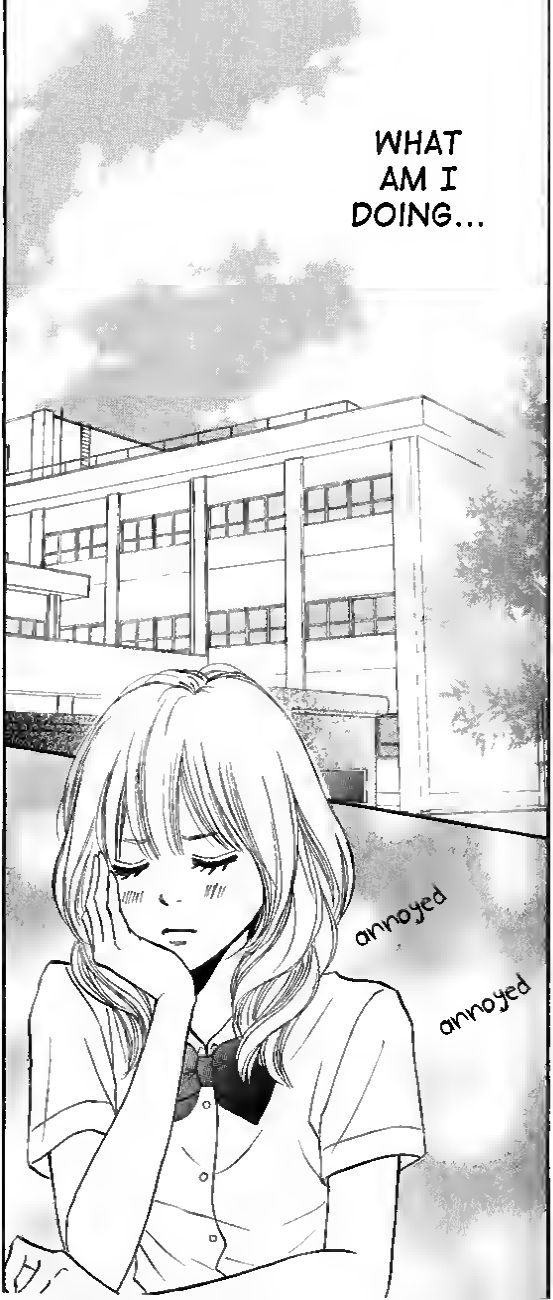
YOU'RE TRYING TO GIVE UP, BUT YOU ACTUALLY DON'T WANT TO!

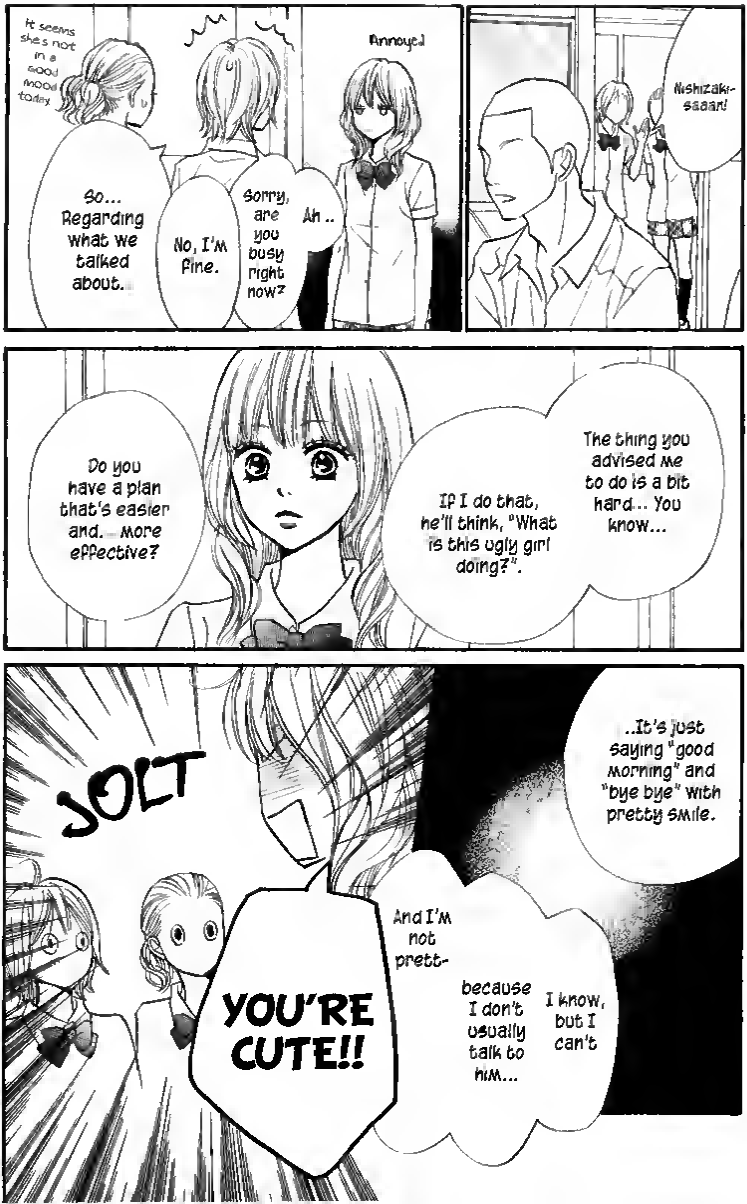
AND THAT GLOOMY FACE!!

GIRLS SHOULD NEVER MAKE THAT KIND OF FACE!!
じーっ
STARE
Haru-chan, Haru-chan,
Na-chan is giving me a hard look.
I told her to come to our group
Yeah
Naka-chan,
give me that after you've finished peeling the skin off!
Okay
GASP
Oh, sorry!

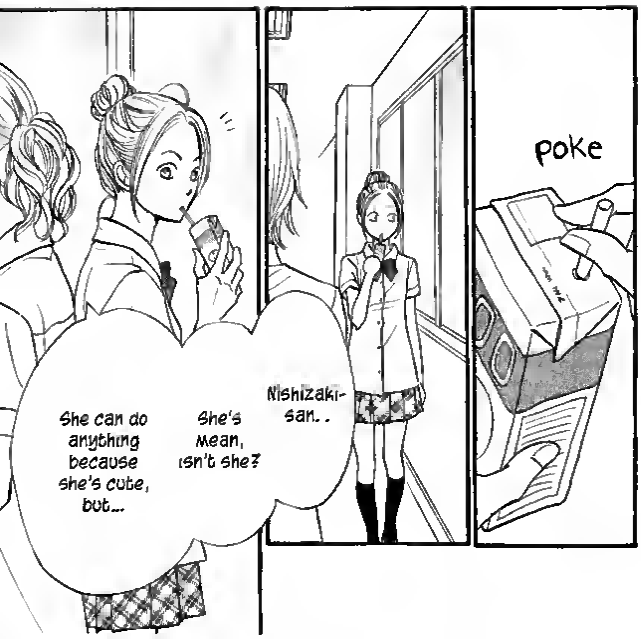
blush
...it's fine.
TAP
TAP
TAP..
GRAB
GLARE

NAKA-CHAN, WHY ARE YOU GIVING UP SO EASILY?
FIGHT! SHOW ME YOU CARE.
.....
discouraged
?
?


WHAT
AM I
DOING...
annoyed
annoyed


It seems she's not in a good mood today
Annoyed
Ah..
Sorry, are you busy right now?
No, I'm fine.
So... Regarding what we talked about.
Nishizaki-ssaan!
The thing you advised me to do is a bit hard... You know...
If I do that, he'll think, "What is this ugly girl doing?".
Do you have a plan that's easier and... more effective?
..It's just saying "good morning" and "bye bye" with pretty smile.
I know, but I can't
because I don't usually talk to him...
And I'm not pretty-
JOLT
YOU'RE CUTE!!

You see, prettiness is not important. The important thing is what you want to do.
You should be able to do that if you really want to get closer to him.

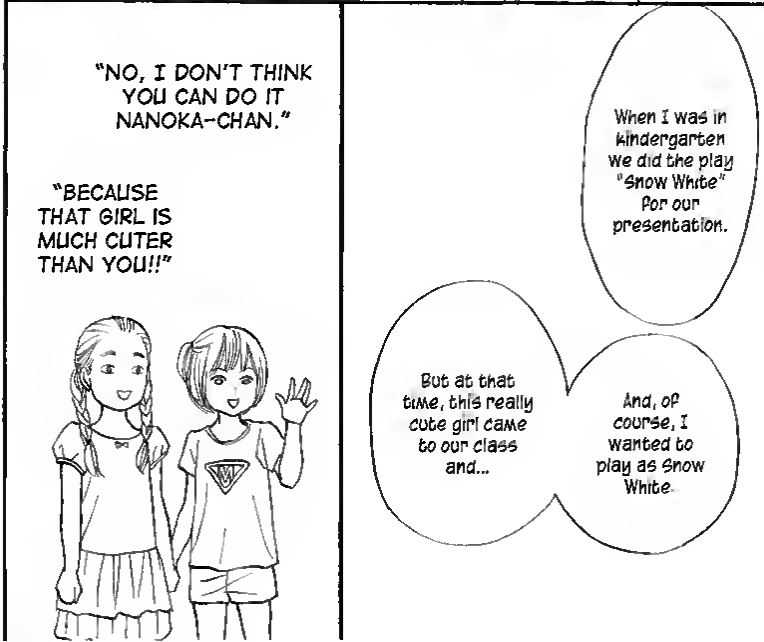

poke
Nishizaki-san..
She's mean, isn't she?
She can do anything because she's cute, but...

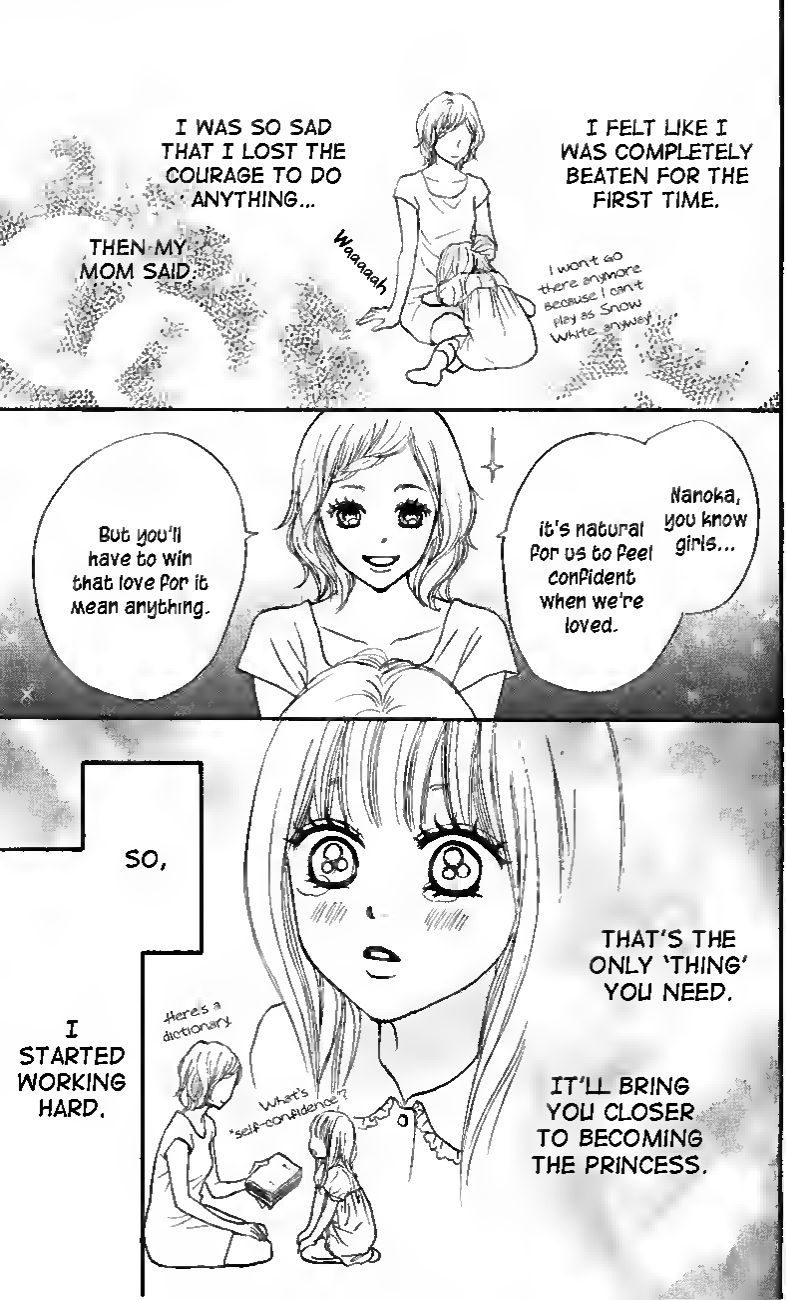
her high popularity is only because of her appearance!
She acts as if she became popular by trying hard
...and tells me that I'm not trying hard enough!

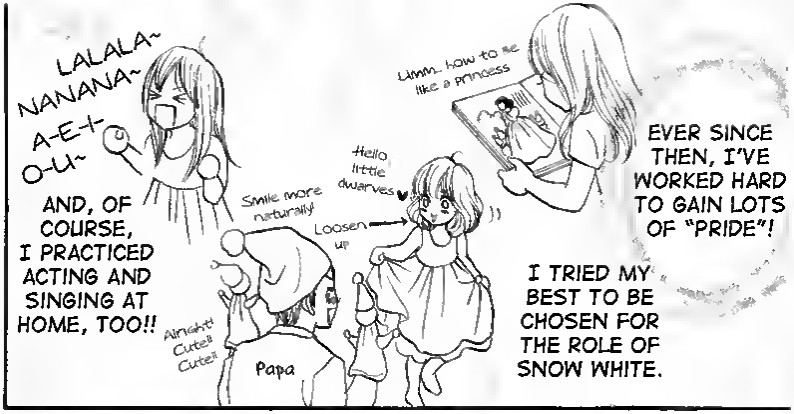
How do you want the outcome, so that you'll be okay with it?
.....

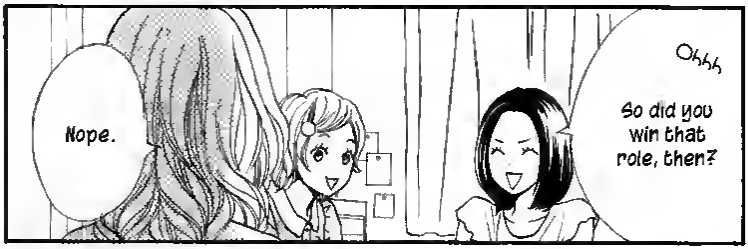
You want Naka-chan senpai to be on good terms with Haru-chan?
OF COURSE NOT!!
Then you want Naka-chan senpai to confess to Haru-chan and then get rejected?
You're so cruel, Nanoka.
.....
But that's not it!
I just want girls to treasure themselves!
Maybe she doesn't want to get hurt?
Then that's why she's giving up?
GEEZ!
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND!!
This is pain.

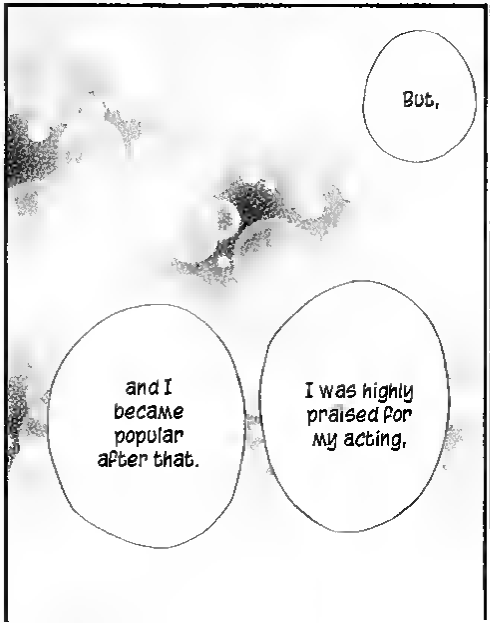
I just don't want girls to think, "It's impossible!" or, "It's hopeless for me to do that!"
Because I know how much those words can hurt themselves!

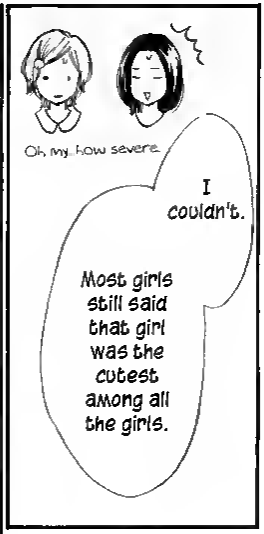

When I was in kindergarten we did the play "Snow White" for our presentation.
And, of course, I wanted to play as Snow White.
But at that time, this really cute girl came to our class and...
"NO, I DON'T THINK YOU CAN DO IT NANOKA-CHAN."
"BECAUSE THAT GIRL IS MUCH CUTER THAN YOU!!"

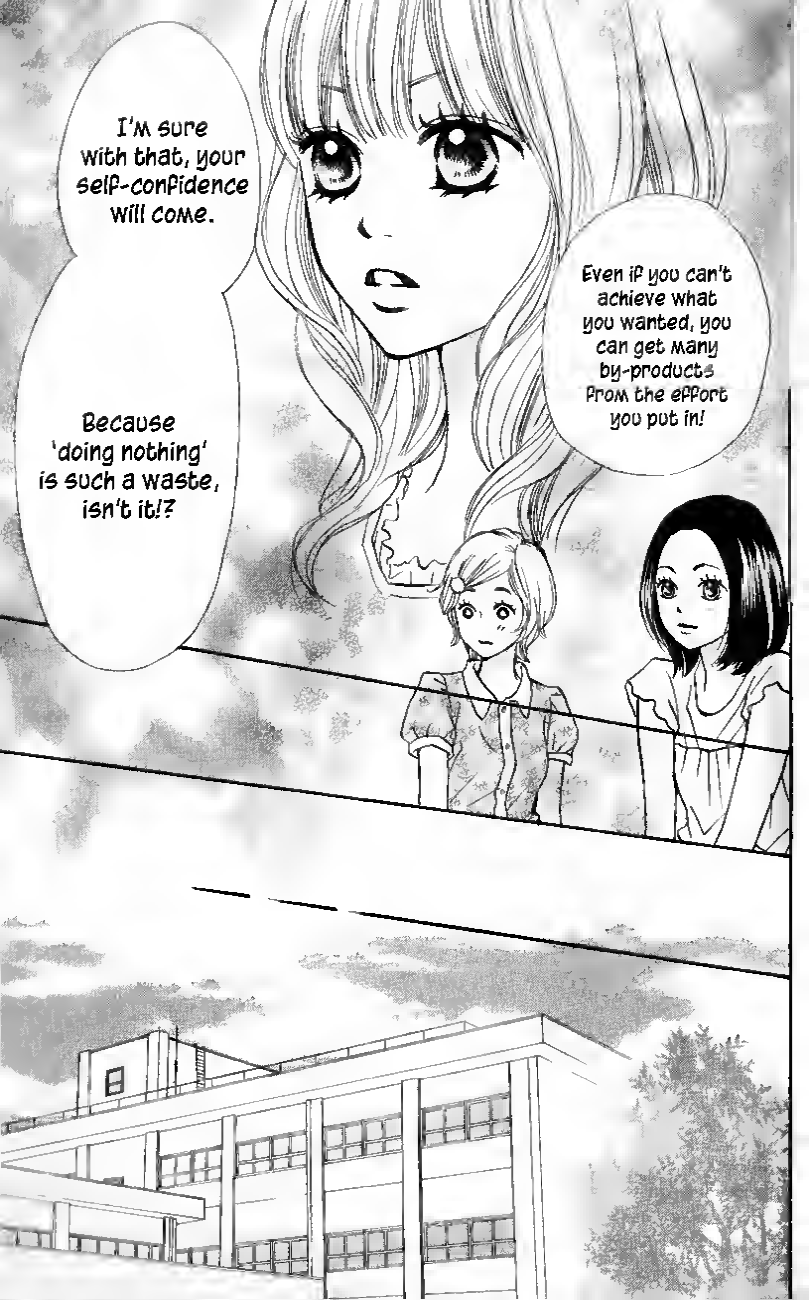

I WAS SO SAD THAT I LOST THE COURAGE TO DO ANYTHING...
I FELT LIKE I WAS COMPLETELY BEATEN FOR THE FIRST TIME.
THEN MY MOM SAID:
Waaaaah
I won't go there anymore because I can't play as Snow White anyway!
Nanoka, you know girls...
it's natural for us to feel confident when we're loved.
But you'll have to win that love for it mean anything.
SO,
I STARTED WORKING HARD.
Here's a dictionary.
What's "self-confidence"?
THAT'S THE ONLY 'THING' YOU NEED.
IT'LL BRING YOU CLOSER TO BECOMING THE PRINCESS.


LALALA~
NANANA~
A-E-I-
O-U~
AND, OF COURSE, I PRACTICED ACTING AND SINGING AT HOME, TOO!!
Smile more naturally!
Loosen up
Hello little dwarves
Alright! Cute! Cute!
Papa
Umm... how to be like a princess
I TRIED MY BEST TO BE CHOSEN FOR THE ROLE OF SNOW WHITE.
EVER SINCE THEN, I'VE WORKED HARD TO GAIN LOTS OF "PRIDE"!


Nope.
Ohhh
So did you win that role, then?

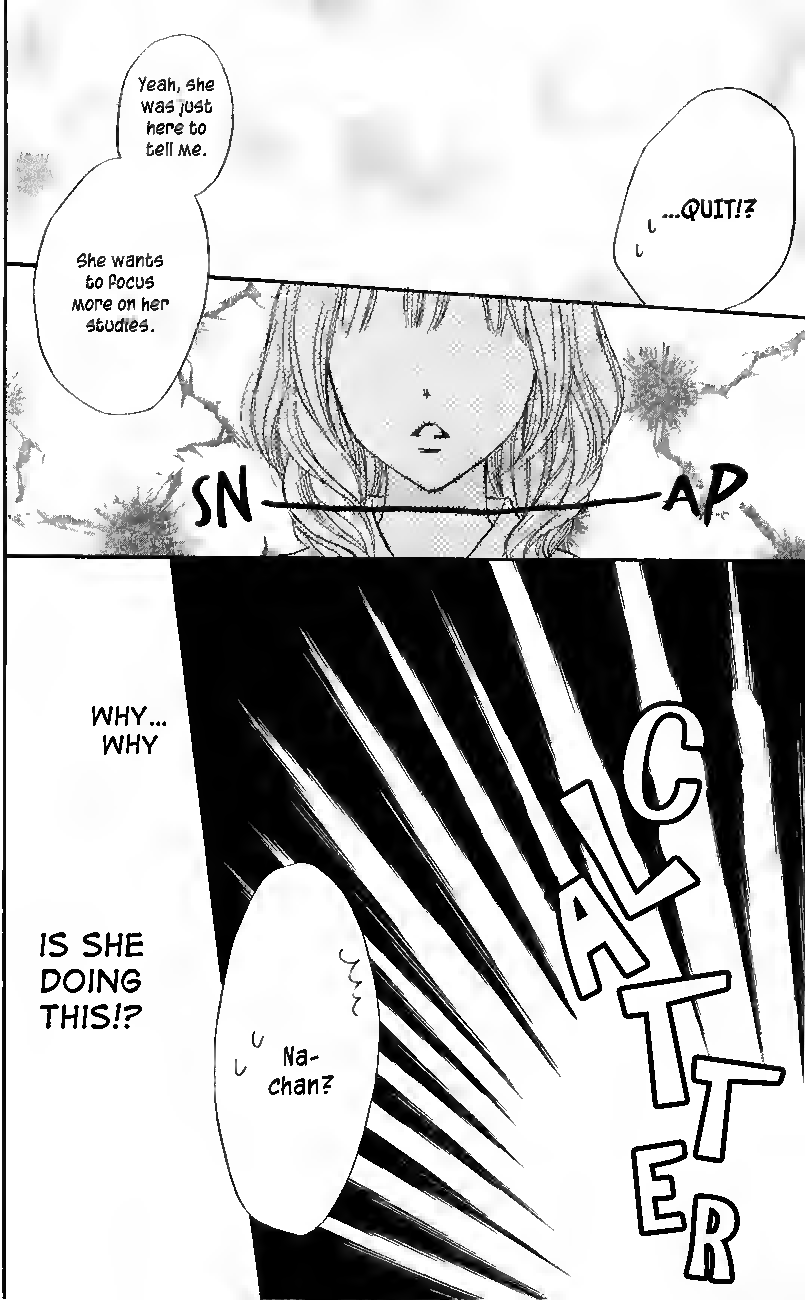

But,
and I became popular after that.
I was highly praised for my acting.


Oh, my. How severe.
I couldn't.
Most girls still said that girl was the cutest among all the girls.

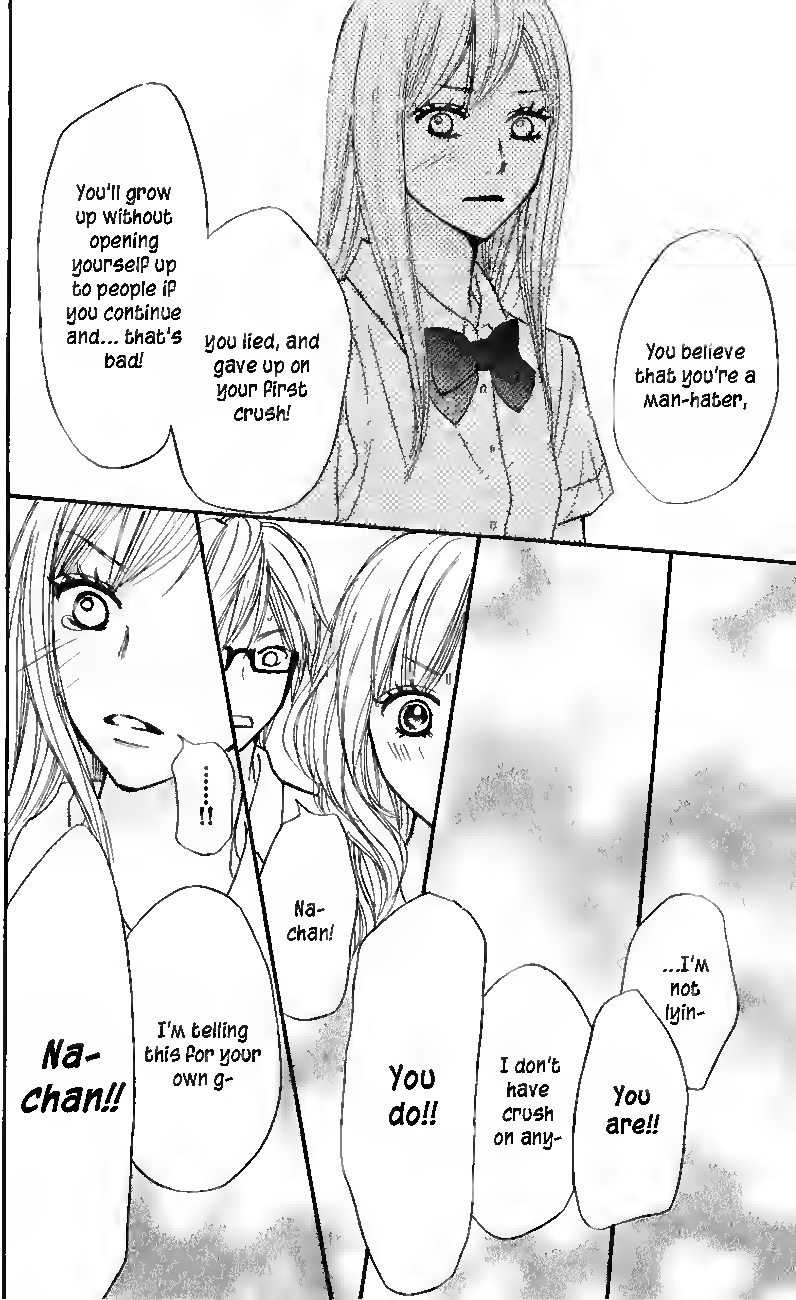

I'm sure with that, your self-confidence will come.
Because 'doing nothing' is such a waste, isn't it!?
Even if you can't achieve what you wanted, you can get many by-products from the effort you put in!

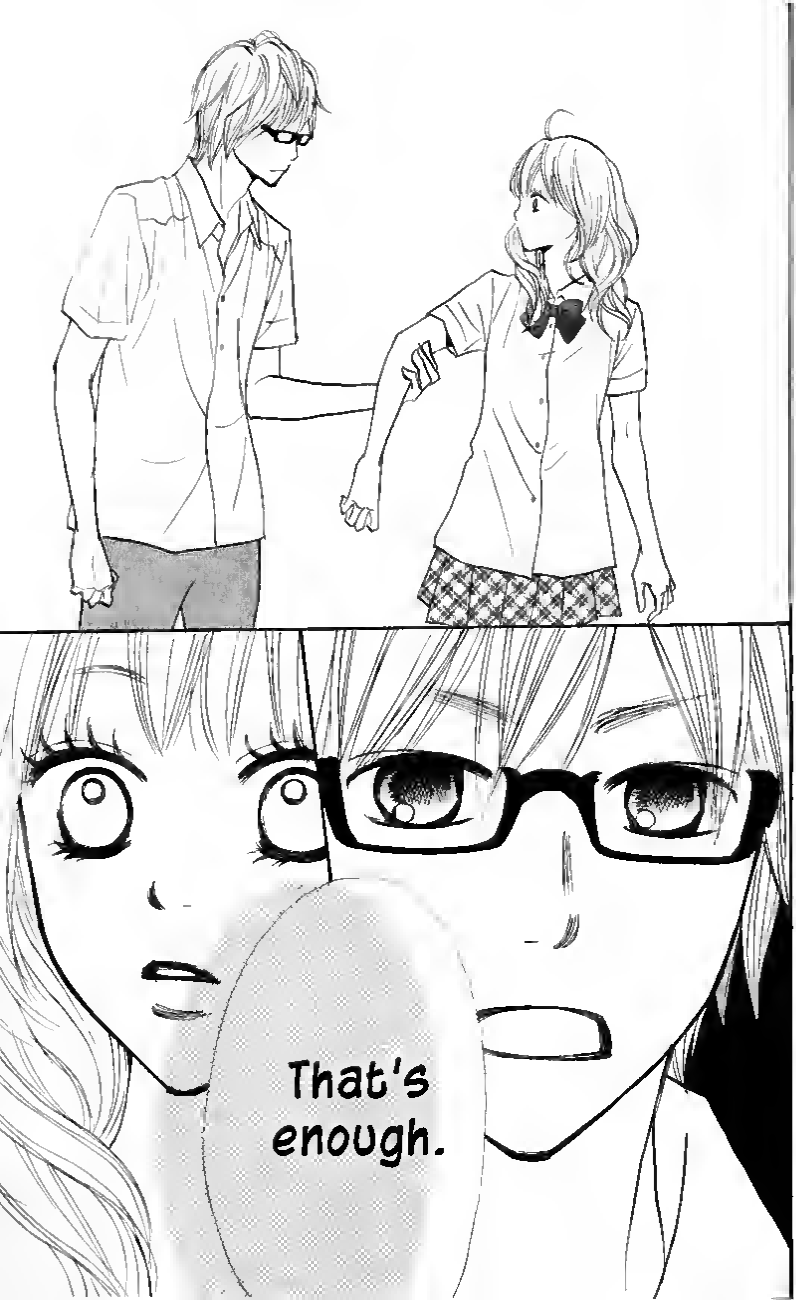
COOKING ROOM
RATTLE
Ah, sorry for being late!!
Cleaning took a long time.
Sorry, everyone!
It's okay
You must be tired!
No problem, Na-chan.
CHATTER
CHATTER
...?
looks around
So what can I do?
Can you grate those yams over there?
Okay ♡

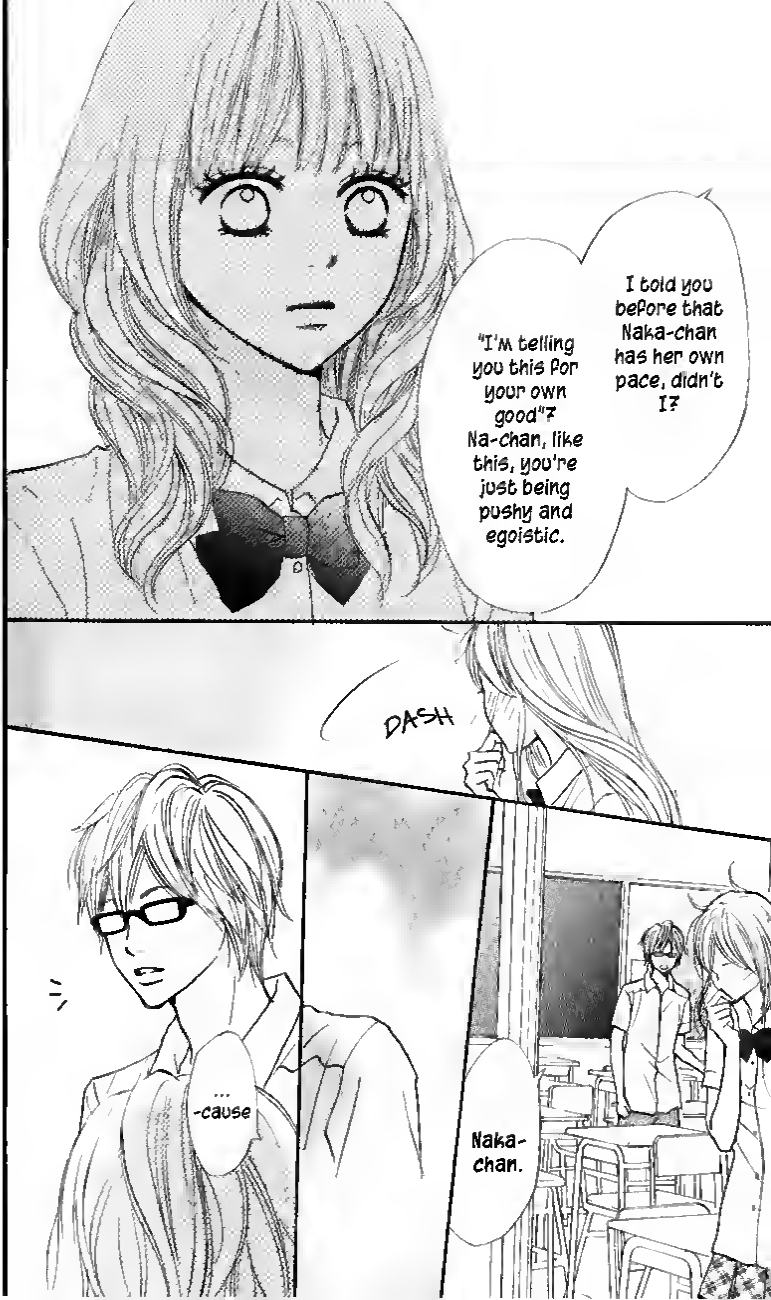
HUH?
glance glance
Hey, Haru-chan,
Is Naka-chan absent today?
Ah...
She said
she wanted to quit.


Yeah, she was just here to tell me.
She wants to focus more on her studies.
...QUIT!?
SN
AP
WHY... WHY
IS SHE DOING THIS!?
Na-chan?
CLATTER

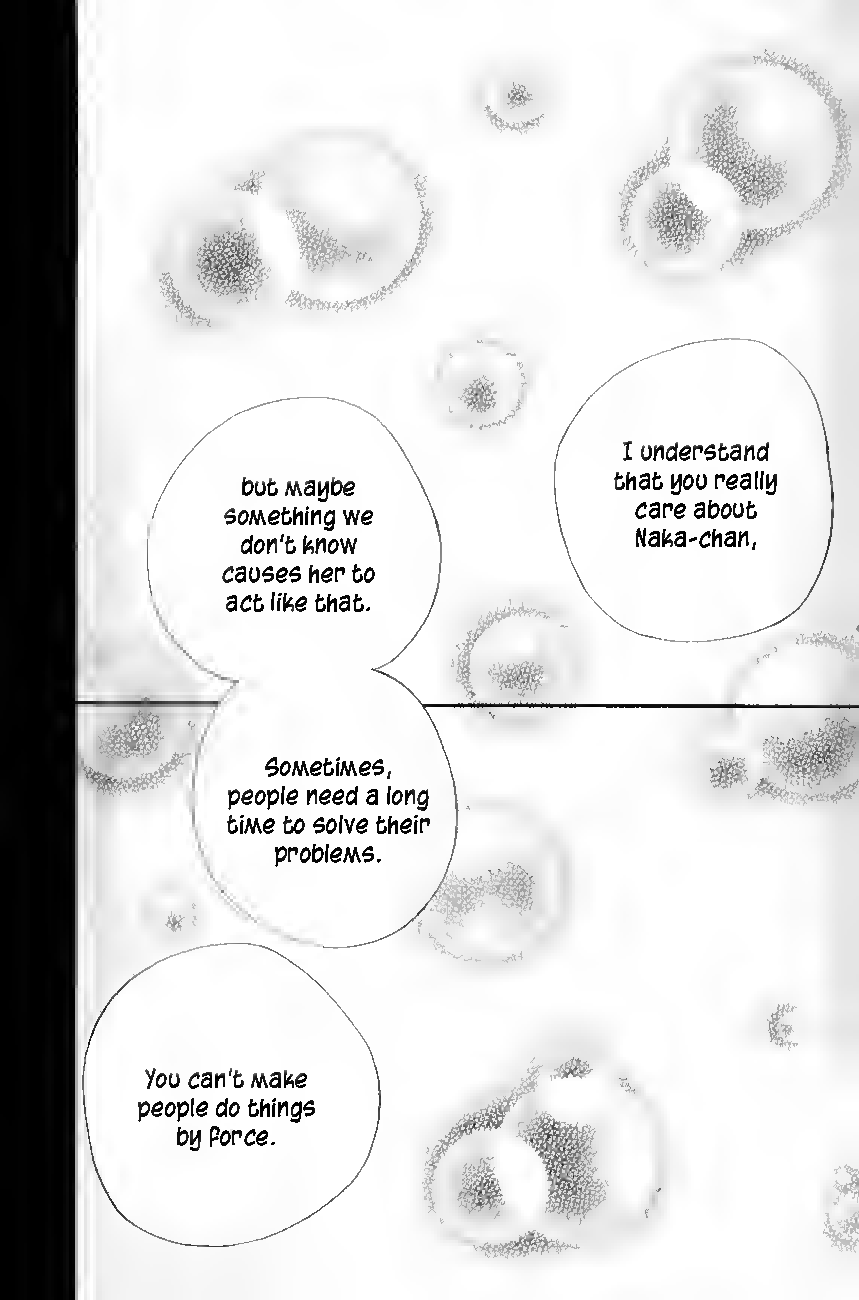
2-4
カラララッ
SLIDE
SHE'S ENDING IT WITHOUT GETTING ANY-THING!!
Naka-chan!
Wh- !?
What?
GEEZ, I'M TELLING YOU!!
YOU CAN'T BE HAPPY IF YOU DON'T CHANGE!!


You believe that you're a man-hater,
you lied, and gave up on your first crush!
You'll grow up without opening yourself up to people if you continue and... that's bad!
...I'm not lyin-
You are!!
I don't have crush on any-
You do!!
Na-chan!
!!
I'm telling this for your own g-
Na-chan!!


That's enough.

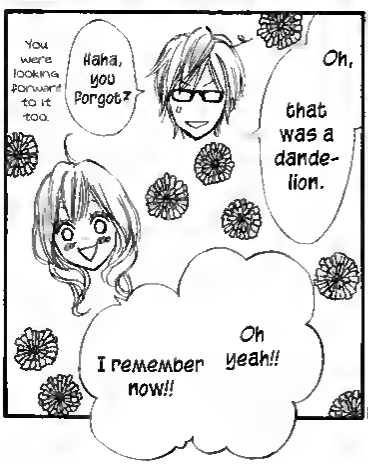

I told you before that Naka-chan has her own pace, didn't I?
"I'm telling you this for your own good"? Na-chan, like this, you're just being pushy and egoistic.
DASH
Naka-chan.
...-cause

I thought someone had to tell her so she... she...
Be-cause ...
...Am I being egoistic ...?


I understand that you really care about Naka-chan,
but maybe something we don't know causes her to act like that.
Sometimes, people need a long time to solve their problems.
You can't make people do things by force.

.....
I...
I was being pushy ...
Did I hurt Naka-chan again?
Don't worry. I'm sure she knows you were trying to be kind to her.
AH...
I'm sorry I shouted at you.

HARU-CHAN IS GREAT.
HE IS KIND AND CALM...
LIKE A SUNFLOWER.
.....
.....


You were looking forward to it too.
Haha, you forgot?
Oh, that was a dande-lion.
I remember now!!
Oh yeah!!

? ?
Was it a... sun-flower?
That cup you got in the cafe.
Huh?
Your cup...

You're more like a sunflower than a dandelion. ♡
Mine was... a rose, right? ♡
No, sweet pea. It was a sweet pea. You forgot already?
AWW! ROSE IS BETTER!! I WANT A ROSE!!
Ah! Naka-chan's cup had a rose on it... A blue rose!
haha
...Eh?
She got angry when I told her she was like a rose though...
But I guessed yours would be a sweet pea that time!
And then Naka-chan said...
GASP

DID YOU GO TO THAT COFFEE SHOP WITH NAKA-CHAN WITH JUST THE TWO OF YOU?
.....
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?